

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6051

BILL NUMBER: SB 18

NOTE PREPARED: Oct 25, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Texting While Driving.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Holdman

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill provides that it is a Class C infraction if a person uses a telecommunications device to transmit a text message or electronic mail message while operating a moving motor vehicle. It repeals current definition of "telecommunications device".

Effective Date: July 1, 2010.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: If additional court cases occur and infraction judgments and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund may increase. The maximum judgment for a Class C infraction is \$500, which is deposited in the state General Fund.

If court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, a court fee of \$70 would be assessed, 70% of which would be deposited in the state General Fund if the case is filed in a court of record or 55% if the case is filed in a city or town court. In addition, some or all of the document storage fee (\$2), automated record keeping fee (\$7), judicial salaries fee (\$18), the public defense administration fee (\$3), the court administration fee (\$5), and the judicial insurance adjustment fee (\$1) are deposited into the state General Fund.

If a criminal action, infraction or ordinance violation involves a traffic violation, including this proposed offense, a highway work zone fee of either 50 cents or \$25.50 is assessed.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: If additional court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources. The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$70 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. Additional fees may be collected at the discretion of the judge and depending upon the particular type of case.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources:

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